



David Ayre Double Bass

David Ayre began playing the double bass at the age of ten. He studied with Tony Hougham at the Colchester Institute, which gave him the Institute String Prize, and then with Peter Buckoke at the Royal College of Music where he was awarded the Geoffrey Tankard Recital Prize.

A freelance musician, David has experience of many genres from baroque to classical to modern contemporary and jazz. As well as his membership of sinfonia VIVA, he has been Principal in the Thames Chamber Orchestra and the Mid Wales Opera Company for many years and is Guest Principal for the London Festival Orchestra. He was Principal with the Orchestra of the Swan for twelve years and also performed regularly with them as a soloist. More recently David has been offered regular work with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Welsh National Opera, the Hallé and Manchester Camerata.

He enjoys a busy schedule recording for the film industry and has worked with a number of well known artists including Damon Albarn, Rufus Wainwright, Joni Mitchell, The Pet Shop Boys, Jarvis Cocker, Grace Jones, Robbie Williams, Sheena Easton, Lesley Garrett, Madonna, Diana Ross, U2, Kathryn Jenkins, Sir John Dankworth and Sir Paul McCartney.

David's chamber music experience includes performances and recordings with the Bingham Quartet, Smith Quartet, Le Page Ensemble, Vivaldi Camerata, Camera Obscura, The Bochmann Ensemble, the Coull Quartet and the Psophos Quartet. He featured with the English String Orchestra as soloist in their recording of Nicholas Maw's *Life Studies*.

In collaboration with violinist David le Page and percussionist Graham Instrall, David brought together the contemporary eight-piece electro-acoustic ensemble Subway Piranhas which played at a number of festivals and venues including a sell-out performance at the South Bank Centre. He has also recently formed a jazz group, the Dave Ayre Trio, which has met with acclaim.

David is very active in music education and outreach workshops, in projects in schools, youth clubs and dance schools, and in industry. He is a regular visitor to Guernsey as Bass tutor for the Elizabeth College Summer Orchestral Course and for performances with the Town Church Strings and the St. James Sinfonia.

David lives near Stroud in Gloucestershire with his wife and two sons and is actively involved in the promotion of musical activity in his local school and youth centre.
